



REVIEWS

BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

FULCANELLI AND THE ALCHEMICAL REVIVAL: The Man Behind the Mystery of the Cathedrals by Geneviève Dubois translated by Jack Cain

Destiny Books, Rochester, VT, USA, 2006 (originally published as *Fulcanelli Dévoilé* by Editions Dervy, Paris, 1996) ISBN 1-59477-082-4 (182pp tpb)

Available: <http://www.innertraditions.com>

Paris at the end of the 19th century and through the early 20th century saw a revival in esoteric schools, secret societies and occult groups as well as interest in the tradition of alchemy. This book from French author Geneviève Dubois, herself a student of alchemical and hermetic philosophies and practices, was published 10 years ago and has only recently been translated into English.

The central figure in the book is the alchemist Fulcanelli, the alleged author of *The Mystery of the Cathedrals* (1926) and *The Dwellings of the Philosophers* (1930), who was said to have discovered the elusive "philosopher's stone" and been able to transmute lead into gold.

But who was Fulcanelli? Legend has it that he was born in 1840 and was still alive in the 1950s. However, Dubois suggests the name could have been a pseudonym for at least one figure involved in the alchemical revival. The trail includes such notables as Eugène Canseliet, Jean-Julien Champagne, René Guénon, Papus and René Schwaller de Lubicz. There was much intrigue in the

relations between members of these esoteric fraternities, and some deception, too, as Dubois proposes that Champagne was behind at least the *Cathedrals* book but had ripped off the ideas of Schwaller de Lubicz.

Some fascinating stories are recounted from many of the people connected with the Fulcanelli mystery, including the case of the "Château of the Strange" and the instance of the two Englishwomen who visited Versailles at the beginning of the 20th century and found themselves plunged into the middle of the 18th. Archival photographs and documents add to the feeling for the times that Dubois recreates.

THE SECRET VAULT

by André Douzet & Philip Coppens
Frontier Publishing, Amsterdam, 2006
ISBN 1-931882-37-1 (141pp tpb)

Available: Frontier Publishing,
<http://www.frontierpublishing.nl>

The mystery surrounding alleged secret treasures discovered by the French priest Bérenger Saunière in the mid-1880s to early 1890s at Rennes-le-Château in the Languedoc region won't go away. In *The Secret Vault*, André Douzet and Philip Coppens extend the territory of their enquiry to include the basilica of Notre Dame de Marceille, situated on a hilltop beside the River Aude near Limoux.

They reveal the existence of a subterranean vault and a sacred spring sourced in the hill (with credit to investigators Clive Prince and the late Jos Bertautlet), and speculate that the church sits atop an ancient underground system of tunnels and chambers that has been kept hidden through the centuries.

Douzet and Coppens believe that the

complex was originally a megalithic site for pagan initiation rituals and was once controlled by the Knights Templar. However, they also suggest that a 17th-century secret society, the Compagnie de St-Sacrement (which was proscribed by king Louis XIV), and its successor, the enigmatic A.A., had a special interest in the site. Many of A.A.'s members, including key clergymen, attempted to buy the property. Furthermore, the authors uncover circumstantial evidence linking Saunière with the A.A. and surmise that he may have been "controlled" by the secret group.

There's also a wooden statue of the Black Madonna—dug up in the vicinity hundreds of years ago, and which inspired the building of the first chapel on the basilica's site—that adds to the intrigue, particularly as Saunière also installed a Black Madonna statue in his church at Rennes-le-Château and as the region is renowned for its associations with the Mary Magdalene cult.

Douzet and Coppens can't provide definitive answers, but their analysis sheds light on dark recesses involving secret rites.



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REVIEWS



BEYOND THE INDIGO CHILDREN: The New Children and the Coming of the Fifth World

by P. M. H. Atwater, LHD

Bear & Co., Rochester, VT, USA, 2005

ISBN 1-59143-051-8 (248pp tpb)

Available: <http://www.innertraditions.com>

Humanity is poised in a period of preparation heralding a "great shifting", a time of intense, powerful energies affecting us as well as the planet and our solar system. We're in the eight-year hiatus between two eclipses of Venus, the second one due on 6 June 2012, only months before the Mayan calendar end-date of 21 December 2012, the prophesied end of the fifth world and the beginning of fifth world ascension. Knowing about these cycles can help us understand the extraordinary children who have been coming into this world in the last 25 years, posits visionary author, spiritual counsellor and pioneering NDE researcher P. M. H. Atwater in her new book *Beyond the Indigo Children*.

Transpersonal astrology is a useful tool in getting a handle on generational types which, Dr Atwater explains, are influenced by the passage of Pluto through the signs of the zodiac. Drawing also on the work of mystics like Mme Helena Blavatsky, Dr Atwater suggests that the so-called "blue", "indigo" and "crystal" children are part of a fifth root race that is destined to assist humanity evolve to its next stage of advancement. However, she doesn't accept it on face value that these children are different: she looks at the evidence for their altered DNA structure, their extra four codons activated at birth, their heightened IQs and larger frontal lobes, and their incredible psychic abilities. Just because a

child may be non-committal, restless or bored—as many children are these days, perhaps due to a denatured diet—is not necessarily an indication that a child is especially gifted, but treatment with psychotropic drugs like Ritalin is not the answer. Thus parents and teachers have a special role to play in helping these children achieve their full potential, and Atwater provides guidance on new ways to educate.

Dr Atwater tells us that many of the "true indigo" types have a rich astral life, communicating with like souls across the planet and together building up a new grid of consciousness "using the formula of thought plus feelings, directed by intent, affirmed by knowingness". Interestingly, she has observed that most children born since 1982 have the same sort of sensitivity and brain/nervous system changes as children who have had near-death experiences (NDEs).

Atwater combines a reasoned approach with a soaring vision for our future.

EGYPT: "IMAGE OF HEAVEN" The Planisphere and the Lost Cradle by Willem H. Zitman

Frontier Publishing, Amsterdam, 2006

ISBN 1-931882-54-1 (311pp tpb)

Available: Frontier Publishing,

<http://www.frontierpublishing.nl>

The ancient Egyptians were skilled landscape surveyors and geographical planners who developed a technique of "astronomical iconography" that allowed them to project star patterns, or constellations, onto the Earth's surface. So says Dutch author Willem Zitman, who speculates that the entire Pyramid Field of Egypt was built as an "image of heaven" on

Earth and provided a framework for the development of their culture. The idea was sourced from the followers of Horus, whose tradition dates back 10,000 years and who migrated from the northern Sahara region around 5300 BCE as a result of a cataclysmic, climate-changing event.

According to Zitman's findings, the course of the Nile from Denderah up to and including the delta stylistically resembles a mirrored image of the constellation Scorpio, and represents a symbolic form of the god Osiris. Key settlements, temples and pyramids along the course were Osiris cult centres and their sitings correspond with the Scorpio star positions. The largest star, Antares, is represented in the Giza pyramid complex. But Scorpio is only one constellation that was part of Egyptian cosmology; depictions of others can be found keyed into the landscape as well as into structures and works of art.

With masses of star charts, astronomical calculations, maps, diagrams and photos, Zitman's book is a fascinating journey into ancient Egyptian cosmology and the lost cradle of civilisation that preceded it.



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BEFORE THE PHARAOHS: Egypt's Mysterious Prehistory

by Edward F. Malkowski

Bear & Co., Rochester, VT, USA, 2006

ISBN 1-59143-048-8 (321pp tpb)

Available: <http://www.innertraditions.com>

For several decades, independent as well as academic researchers have proposed the existence of an advanced civilisation which preceded the dynastic Egyptian culture by thousands of years.

In *Before the Pharaohs*, Illinois-based historical researcher Edward Malkowski draws together findings and speculation from the fields of climatology, geology, archaeology, anthropology, mythology, genetics and engineering that support this proposal.

The Sphinx monument on the Giza Plateau, for instance, is arguably much older than orthodox Egyptologists would have us believe. Malkowski discusses the water erosion observations of geologists Robert Schoch and David Coxill, backing up their conclusions that the monument was already carved, at least in part, at a time when torrential rainfall was the norm. Thus he concurs that the Sphinx could be 7,000 years rather than 4,500 years old.

Malkowski analyses Egypt's prehistoric roots in terms of the spread of Cro-Magnon man through and out of Africa and into the Mediterranean basin—later the scene of a Great Flood that wiped out a sophisticated civilisation in the basin.

The megaliths of the Nabta Playa in southern Egypt show evidence of an early understanding of astronomy, and Malkowski refers to findings by US space physicist Dr Thomas Brophy that the bedrock sculpture underneath one of these structures depicts the Milky Way galaxy. Apparently this scul-

ture was oriented to the vernal equinox heliacal rising of galactic centre in 17,700 BC!

Continuing the lead taken by 19th century French explorer Le Plongeon, Malkowski looks at the links between the Egyptian and Mayan cultures and the evidence that they were remnants of a once greater, highly advanced civilisation. Its fall was likely the result of a great cataclysm which also caused the disappearance of Cro-Magnon culture. An absorbing, big-picture study.

IN SEARCH OF THE SOUTHERN SERPENT:

A Journey into the Power of Place
by Hamish Miller and Barry Brailsford

Penwith Press, UK, and StonePrint Press, New Zealand, 2006

ISBN 0-9582434-1-7 (233pp flexifold)

Available: penwithpress@talk21.com;

<http://www.stoneprint.co.nz>

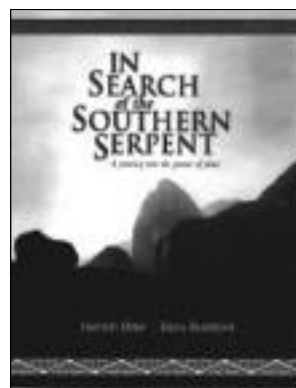
This book is the culmination of a special collaboration between two wise, grey-bearded men from opposite ends of the Earth: Scottish-born blacksmith and dowser Hamish Miller (co-author with Paul Broadhurst of *The Sun and the Serpent*; see 2/17), who's based in Cornwall; and New Zealand-born historian and secret-keeper Barry Brailsford (author of *Song of the Stone*; see 3/02). Both of them have connected with their local energy lines: Miller, having worked with England's St Michael/Mary ley line for years; and Brailsford, having become steeped in the spirit of New Zealand's sacred landscape and the lore of its Maori people. They had a lot to share by getting together, and we readers are the better off for it, if their book *In Search of the Southern Serpent* is any

guide—which it is. Much of it is written in Miller's voice.

While some of the adventure takes place in Britain and Europe (the Apollo–Athena line also being featured) as well as in Australia, most of the action happens in the Land of the Long White Cloud, New Zealand, as the authors explore incredible landmarks and their energy signatures.

Beautiful colour photos and energy diagrams enliven these pages, giving us the feel for the spirit trail: the giant Ra Kai Hau Tu stone, the Castle Hill rocks, the Brooklyn Tor and so many more rock formations that look like images of powerful ancestors, sculpted in their memory.

At times in their travels the authors team up with researcher Gary Cook, who provides his own input towards this sacred travelogue. There's also a tie-in with mysterious Africa and the stories popularised by shaman Credo Mutwa. Intrinsic to the journey are Hamish Miller's partner Ba Russell and Barry Brailsford's partner Cushla as well as many other fellow travellers. This is a visionary journey into landscape dreaming.



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THEY LIED TO US IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

by Ian Ross Vayro

Joshua Books, Buddina, Qld, Aust, 2006
ISBN 0-9756878-6-7 (428pp tpb)

Available: <http://www.JoshuaBooks.com>

As the old song goes, "The things that you're liable to read in the Bible ain't necessarily so", and if you've ever had doubts about the so-called infallible truths of organised religion then you'll resonate with the message of this book.

They Lied to Us in Sunday School is the end product of a lifetime of study by Queenslander Ian Ross Vayro, an electronics engineer as well as a student of ancient history and archaeology. All his life, Vayro has questioned the dogma that has been dished out by the Christian Church. He maintains that so much of the doctrine that the Church expects its adherents to believe cannot be accepted without question; in fact, it verges on sheer idiocy to take the edicts on board.

To prove his point, Vayro explores the Bible stories with his antennae on, showing up inconsistencies in stories, problems with translations and queries over historical contexts. He also investigates the numerous saviour myths that preceded the Jesus birth/crucifixion story, the Sumerian and Egyptian antecedents to the Hebrew world view and the competing forms of worship from the multitheistic to the monotheistic solar, casting light on the birth and evolution of the Church of Rome.

In declaring that the secrets and messages that sparked these religious world views have been lost, Vayro makes a case for rediscovering them with eyes wide open to the truth. He laments that our religions

have become watered down and their scriptures vandalised. He calls for an urgent re-evaluation of our forebears' legacy and a reclaiming of knowledge of empowerment concerning life, karma and reincarnation. After all, he maintains, Jesus believed that we all deserve to share in knowledge about eternal life that could lead to immortality.

THE JESUS PAPERS: Exposing the Greatest Cover-Up in History

by Michael Baigent

HarperElement, London, UK, 2006
ISBN 0-00-723642-8 (321pp hc)

Available: www.thorsonselement.co.uk

Jesus Christ did exist, but his life has been so highly mythologised as to misrepresent the truth, says religious historian Michael Baigent in *The Jesus Papers*. The story begins just after publication of Baigent's co-authored book *The Holy Blood And The Holy Grail* (1982), when the trio received a letter from a respected English vicar alerting them to the existence of a mediaeval French document which intimated that Jesus was still alive in AD 45.

To cut a long story short, the source of the document may have been the Abbé Béranger Saunière of Rennes-le-Château in the French Pyrénées, who became mysteriously rich after discovering an ancient "treasure" in his church circa 1891. Unfortunately, no amount of searching produced this elusive document. Undeterred, Baigent continued his quest for other evidence that Jesus survived (or was substituted at) the crucifixion.

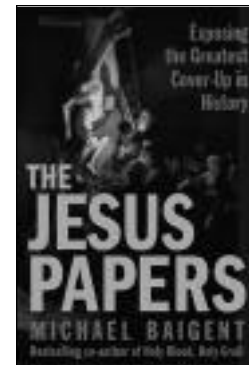
In his attempt to shed light on the mystery, Baigent revisits historical records concerning political and religious conflicts between the Romans and the Jews and the

role of the so-called Zealots in Jesus' fate.

He surmises that, following the crucifixion, Jesus, having fulfilled the prophecies, escaped with his wife Mary Magdalene to the protection of the Zadokite Temple of Onias in Egypt. However, they both had to flee escalating dangers there in AD 38 and travel to the safety of southern France. Still, it is possible that Jesus may have turned up in Rome in AD 45.

Baigent despairs that so many source documents and fragments of scrolls are in private hands and have never been provided to scholars for analysis. One such find includes two parchment letters written in Aramaic by the "Messiah of the Children of Israel" to the Jewish court, the Sanhedrin, and dated to about AD 34, explaining that he was not *physically* the son of God but that the "Spirit of God" was in him. Such evidence, if it can be verified, is certainly a threat to the Church's doctrine on divinity.

Baigent is confident the truth is "out there" and in time will be revealed. His extensive research, set off by a large section of colour plates, make for an absorbing read that poses more questions than it answers.



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THE GREEN MAN AND THE DRAGON

by Paul Broadhurst

Mythos, Cornwall, UK, 2006

ISBN 0-9513236-6-0 (218pp tpb)

Available: MythosBox888@aol.com

There is much more to the story of St George and the Dragon than meets the eye, says mythologist Paul Broadhurst. According to one story, George was an early convert to Christianity who was born near Jerusalem and paid with his life under Emperor Diocletian in AD 303 for challenging Roman paganism. He became a special guardian of the Byzantine Empire and eventually of the Roman Church, and was even adopted by the Knights Templar as their patron saint. The Vatican may have taken away his sainthood status in 1968 due to lack of evidence for his existence, but St George is still revered in rituals performed from Cornwall to Old Cairo. Why should his influence be so enduring?

In *The Green Man and The Dragon*, Broadhurst overturns the accepted version of history by arguing that St George was originally a pagan fertility god who was adopted by the early Christian Church, first under Constantine. Analysing the name's etymology, he points out that it contains the root component "Ge-" twice—an ancient word referring to the Earth and used today in words like "geology" and "geography". In Europe, this figure is well revered as "Green George", and in Britain he can be equated with the "Green Man" of folklore, whose foliage-covered face that peeps out of masonry and baptismal fonts reminds the viewer of his power as a symbol of nature.

As for the dragon symbolism that's part of the St George myth, it was not so much a

depiction of good slaying evil because the winged dragon was regarded in most pre-Christian cultures as signifying the spirit of nature. Broadhurst traces some of the history of the dragon myth, going back to ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia and Britain with their complex cosmologies and their abilities to perceive Earth energies and so-called "dragon" or ley lines.

In his beautifully produced work, with sepia-toned photographs and illustrations as well as colour plates, Broadhurst says that dragon power is at the heart of all esoteric traditions and has much to teach us about the evolution of consciousness.

HIDDEN TRUTH – FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE

by Steven M. Greer, MD

Crossing Point Inc., Crozet, VA, 2006

ISBN 0-9673238-2-7 (325pp tpb)

Available: Crossing Point, Inc., PO Box

265, Crozet, VA 22932, website

<http://www.disclosureproject.org>

Knowing what he does about the UFO/KET presence on Earth as well as the tentacles of the US military-industrial complex, Dr Steven Greer is lucky to be alive. Perhaps the fact that this country doctor from North Carolina—who has had several experiences with UFOs/ETs, some going way back to his early childhood—has been prepared to go very public to get the word out has protected him.

Dr Greer is the brains trust behind The Disclosure Project and took a huge gamble when he organised a major press conference in Washington, DC, in 2001, where key whistleblowers came forward to bear witness to the UFO reality.

If you read the extract from chapter 16 in

this issue, you'll appreciate that Dr Greer has had to navigate the minefield of deception that's at the core of the most shadowy government circles. The truth is not pretty, especially when it speaks in spades about the fascist-corporate stranglehold over our democratic institutions and freedoms. Even the spying technology at the disposal of the secret government surpasses anything in the hands of the CIA or NSA, he asserts.

Hidden Truth... is Dr Greer's memoir, a personal disclosure of sorts, that recounts his formative experiences—many of a deeply spiritual nature—and how he became a warrior for the truth that could set us free: that is, the truth about our ET heritage as well as about the free-energy technologies that could solve our energy crisis if only the powers-that-be would allow it.

Dr Greer speculates on a golden age to come in the future, if only we can get our acts together in this age. Part of the secret is to come to terms with the power of the human consciousness.

This is mind-blowing material that gives us a glimmer of hope in these dark times.



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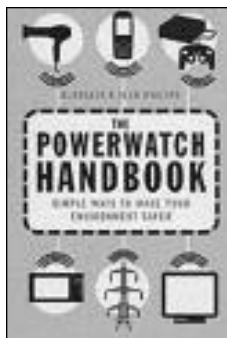
Piatkus Books Ltd, UK, 2006

ISBN 0-7499-2686-4 (294pp pb)

Available: <http://www.piatkus.co.uk>

Perhaps up to 35 per cent of people living in industrialised societies exhibit some signs of electrostress, and an estimated three to five per cent suffer from a new and growing syndrome: electrical hypersensitivity (EHS). In this handy guidebook from Powerwatch, a group co-founded in the UK in the late 1980s by scientist and electronics engineer Alasdair Philips, you can determine if you are one of these affected people.

Alasdair and Jean Philips have compiled a questionnaire based on a list of EHS symptoms prepared by Neil Irvine for the Radiation Protection Division of the UK Health Protection Agency; these symptoms include numbness in joints or limbs,



abnormal tiredness, headaches, memory loss, sleep disturbance, unusual irritability, fever, and so on. The authors maintain that such symptoms will increasingly be seen as the levels of electromagnetic smog we're surrounded by increase; in fact, it's getting more "aggressive". They summarise key findings in research into the effects of ionising radiation and electromagnetic fields (EMFs), providing additional scientific back-up in the appendix.

The Powerwatch Handbook is a user-friendly resource with guidance on how you can reduce the known and suspected risks from EMFs in the environment as well as at home, at work and at your child's school or kindergarten. The authors give safety ratings to a range of appliances, from mobile phones and hairdryers to microwave ovens and computers, plus advice on how to reduce your EMF exposure when using them. They also discuss mobile phone masts, powerlines, substations and other outdoor sources of radiation exposure and their health effects, giving tips on what to avoid in order to reduce exposure. Plus,

they have handy hints on minimising EMF exposure in the car, at airports and train stations, and in places frequented by children. In fact, Alasdair has designed EMF detectors that can be hired so you can do your own surveys (see website <http://www.emfields.org>). For readers who want instant information, the lists of Dos and Don'ts will help you make immediate changes towards safer living.

A HANDY WAY TO COOK YOUR BRAIN: What's the Damage?

by Dr David R. James & Ora S. James

Body Conservation, Munich, 2005

(originally published in German in 2004)

ISBN 3-00-015228-8 (365pp tpb)

Available: **Germany**—Body Conservation, tel +49 (0)89 17 09 54 87, <http://www.bodyconservation.com>; **UK**—Healthnotes, Lancs., tel +44 (0)12254 871850, email healthnotes@freeuk.com

Health practitioners Dr David and Ora James were inspired to research and write this book following the banning in Germany of Dr Robert Kane's 2001 book *Cellular Telephone Russian Roulette*. They include the latest research into the harmful effects of high-frequency and microwave radiation on living beings, and illustrate these effects with many full-colour charts and graphic photos (the ones of deformed animals born within the zone of transmitter towers are shocking).

Taking the stance that the human being has an energy field and is also an excellent receiver of electromagnetic waves, the authors show how the biofield is adversely affected in the presence of radiation emitted by mobile phones and microwave ovens (the Kirlian Effect appendix gives additional back-up). They provide the "unbiased truth" about mobile phones, expressing their disbelief that mobile phone manufacturers were allocated the very frequency range that literally "cooks" human cells. This is despite 40 years of research documenting the harmful effects of the 750–950 MHz band used by mobile phones—right next to the spectrum used by microwave ovens!

If we're not victims of a conspiracy, our having mobile phones at least makes us part of a huge experiment or "game" with 700 million players worldwide. The authors advise on the radiation risks from mobile phones and transmitters, iPods, computers and microwave ovens and how to minimise them. These health effects can include hormonal changes, blood abnormalities, genetic damage and tumour growth.

The authors include a wealth of related health information throughout the book. We'd be wise to listen to their warnings, not take that next mobile phone call..



REVIEWS

PARAPOLITICS: CONSPIRACY IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICA

by Kenn Thomas

Adventures Unlimited Press, Illinois, 2006
ISBN 1-931882-55-X (311pp tpb)
Available: Adventures Unlimited, website
<http://www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com>;
NEXUS offices

Kenn Thomas, founder/editor of the conspiracy journal *Steamshovel Press* and author of *The Octopus: Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro* among other titles, has compiled an exciting volume of material that falls under the heading of "parapolitics". By this term Thomas means political events that run alongside "normal" politics but in a de-evolutionary manner towards manipulation and control of the people.

In his introduction he lashes out at those who so readily resort to the term "conspiracy theorist" to describe anyone who thinks independently about current affairs, maintaining that the term has been concocted as a disinformation tool. Too right!



Such independent thinking as disparaged by the establishment can cover anything from questions surrounding the JFK assassination and the UFO presence to the power of the military-industrial complex (MIC) and the existence of secret societies. These are major issues of our times, yet the thought-controllers would have the masses believe that such questions are bunkum and anyone who asks them is deluded! Even critics of NEXUS can't see a link between the MIC and UFOs, choosing to close their minds to the body of evidence.

The offerings reproduced here include selections of Thomas's commentaries, interviews, lectures, correspondence and articles from the early 1990s through to 2004, covering conspiracy parapolitics in contemporary America. Subjects include the shadow government, Eisenhower's response to the UFO agenda, bin Laden and the infamous PROMIS software, omissions of the 9/11 Commission (including a dialogue with veteran conspiracy researcher John Judge), and crimes of the last several Presidents of the USA. There's also an

interview with a friend of Octopus researcher Danny Casolaro, which confirms that he was treading on dangerous ground before he was killed.

While I think this compilation could have been better edited, I wouldn't let that put readers off absorbing the fascinating behind-the-scenes info that Thomas covers.

THE SS BROTHERHOOD OF THE BELL

by Joseph P. Farrell

Adventures Unlimited Press, Illinois, 2006
ISBN 1-931882-61-4 (459pp tpb)
Available: Adventures Unlimited, website
<http://www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com>;
NEXUS offices

The prospect of the existence of secret Nazi science and technology has gripped researchers over the decades, and this book adds to the body of knowledge as well as to the speculation. Joseph Farrell, author of the *Giza Death Star* series (see reviews in NEXUS 11/02, 13/01), is not afraid to tackle the issue of exotic technologies, and he's discovered many that were under development by the Nazis. But he's also not afraid to follow the post-World War II trails of the secret technology programs and the scientists behind them to see where they ended up: America, Argentina and Russia in particular.

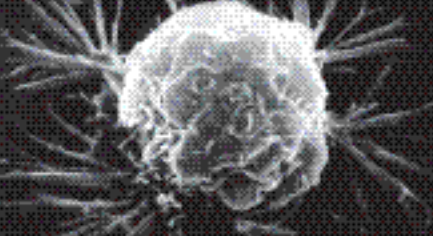
Farrell's main object of interest here is a Nazi high-tech weapons project code-named "The Bell", which was in the planning several years before its first testing in 1944. As for its purpose, considering reports that it involved two rotating cylinders, it may have been a scalar energy generating device, a time travel stargate or a prototype propulsion system for an antigravity craft.

The rumoured device was apparently spirited away from its Silesian bunker in 1945 aboard a six-engine, long-range Junkers aircraft, and all the records along with it. This device, whatever it was, had the highest security classification of anything in Nazi Germany, including the atomic bomb project. Reportedly the SS murdered most of the scientists and technicians involved with the project as a prelude to removing the device.

And it didn't all end with the demise of the Nazis, as Farrell maintains that their secret technologies were taken up in equally secret programs by the victors of World War II. The US military-industrial complex today owes its power in part to its Nazi predecessors, its covert interest in occult science being a spin-off.

This is an intriguing study that will be appreciated by alternative historians and free-energy researchers alike.

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REVIEWS



DVDs

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

2012: THE ODYSSEY

A Sharron Rose film, Sacred Mysteries Productions, USA, 2006 (112mins)
Available: Sacred Mysteries Productions, PO Box 1697, Port Townsend, WA 98368 USA, tel/fax +1 360 379 4796, website orders <http://www.2012theodyssey.com> or <http://www.sacredmysteries.com>

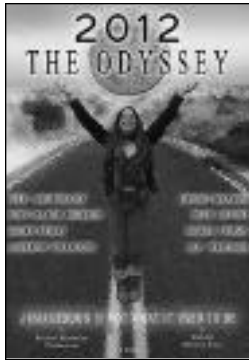
What will happen to us between now and 2012? Are there other prophecies that also foretell the closing of this world age and the start of a new beginning?

Join Sharron Rose as she travels across the USA speaking to respected researchers about this fast-approaching "end date". Luminaries include José Argüelles, Gregg Braden, John Major Jenkins, Rick Levine, Geoff Stray, Moira Timms, Alberto Villoldo, Jay Weidner, the Inca Elders and more.

Revealed here are secrets of the Maya, the Inca, the Alchemists, the Christians, the Masons and our ancient ancestors concerning the end of time and the promise of our destiny as human beings.

Importantly, this film shows us that the coming world is ours to reshape and to remake in any way that we deem possible. It reminds us that we need not be victims of events beyond our control.

Very informative and thought-provoking.



WALKING SOFTLY WITH KOA: Surviving & Enjoying the Australian Bush

Mark Jago, Australia, 2006 (65mins)
Available: Mark Jago, c/- Post Office, Rock Valley, NSW 2480, Australia, tel +61 (0)2 6633 7339, website <http://www.big.com.au/koa/>

While I appreciate that most NEXUS readers do not live in eastern Australia, I think this is an important and empowering documentary for everyone. I found that it put me into "bush mode" (no relation to the current idiot US President),

which is a head space I believe can be used by people to tune into the environment.

For non-Australian readers, I reckon it's worth getting this DVD just to see our glorious flora and to watch Koa, one of the many colourful characters of the Aussie bush, showing you what and what not to eat.

This is the first in a series about Aussie bushcraft and survival skills, and I, for one, am looking forward to the next DVD.

The website provides a free PDF book to download, titled *Bush Tucker Survival Guide*, which is also worth getting.

FLIGHT FROM DEATH: THE QUEST FOR IMMORTALITY

Accent Film Entertainment and Transcendental Media, 2005 (90mins)
Available: Accent Film Entertainment, 117 Bridport Street, Albert Park, Vic. 3206, Australia, <http://www.accentfilm.com>; or MRA Entertainment Group Pty Ltd, website <http://www.mraentertainment.com>

Narrated by Gabriel Byrne, this seven-time Best Documentary award-winning film is the most comprehensive and mind-blowing investigation of humankind's relationship with death ever captured for the

screen. Hailed by many viewers as a "life-transformational film", *Flight from Death* uncovers death anxiety as a possible root cause of many of our behaviours on cultural, psychological and spiritual levels.

Following the work of the late cultural anthropologist Ernest Becker and his Pulitzer Prize-winning book *Denial of Death*, this

documentary may forever change the way we look at ourselves and the world, substantiating Becker's claim that anxiety about death is a deep-set, primary motivator of human behaviour, specifically aggression and violence.

Three years in the making and beautifully photographed in eight different countries, *Flight from Death* features an all-star cast of scholars, authors, philosophers and researchers. It's a film that is moving, stimulating, revelatory and reassuring as well as entertaining.

The Book of Enoch the Prophet

One of the Bible's most famous "lost books, its themes include apocalyptic visions, the actions of angels and demons, the Messianic age, the New Jerusalem, the Resurrection and the Final Judgement. Enoch, the son of Cain, communicates with the "fallen ones", whose interference in human affairs resulted in the introduction of evil into the world, and he is instructed through visions from angels of light to tell these "outcasts" of their fate. The Book of Enoch is replete with parables, history, sacred science, dream symbolism, prophecies and much righteousness.

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One Monday in mid-February 1989, Alec Newald set off on what should have been a three-hour drive from Rotorua to Auckland in New Zealand. He arrived in Auckland to learn that Monday was now Thursday ten days later, and that he had no idea of what had happened in the meantime! When Alec did retrieve his memories of those missing ten days, he realised his life had changed forever, for early on in that fateful trip, while driving through a foggy mountain pass, Alec was whisked from the road by beings from an extraterrestrial civilisation. A true story!

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REVIEWS

MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

GUITAR MEDITATIONS

featuring **Billy McLaughlin**

Soulfood Music & Media, New World Music Ltd, UK, 2005 (62mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—New World Music, tel (02) 9565 4522; **UK**—NWM, tel (0)1986 891600, website <http://www.newworldmusic.co.uk>;
USA—NWM, tel 800 771 0987

Gentle acoustic guitar always makes you feel good, and this CD with the combined talents of Dan Schwartz, Ron Cohen, DJ Free and Billy McLaughlin is the best of their fine playing. Dan's music is heard on Leo Kottke's albums, Ron Cohen has won Grammy awards for his music, DJ Free has written scores for IMAX films and Billy McLaughlin has won five national music awards in the US. All four together create a lush, peaceful, acoustically calming album.

DIDGERIDOO TRANCE DANCE 2

by various artists

Music Mosaic, Australia, 2006 (69mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—New World Music, tel (02) 9565 4522; <http://www.music-mosaic.com> **UK**—Sounds Travel, tel 01242 571659; **Germany**—Silenzio, tel +49 9191 97870; **USA**—White Swan, tel (303) 527 0770

Music Mosaic has released a stunning array of ambient trance albums, three of which feature the didgeridoo. This, its fourth title in this genre, features some of Australia's great didge-players including Charlie McMahon and Gondwana, Ariel Kalma, Stu Fergie, Gregory Ruzé and many others. An album of cool sound, moving to the wild tribal notes of the Australian aboriginal didge with synthesisers, drums and keyboards. Fast-transport dance music to make you take to the dance floor.

TOUMANI DIABATE'S SYMMETRIC ORCHESTRA

by **Toumani Diabaté**

World Circuit Ltd, UK, 2006 (53mins) plus DVD (14mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK**—World Circuit Ltd, tel (0)1689 870622, <http://www.worldcircuit.co.uk>

Toumani Diabaté is one of Africa's greats and here he pulls together one of his best works (almost surpassing *In the Heart of the Moon*, released in 2005; see NEXUS 12/06). The Symmetric Orchestra has played together for a decade, but has never been promoted outside Africa. Members of the orchestra

come and go and it's a hothouse of talent and musicianship. The traditional instruments kora and balafon are combined with electric guitars, bass and drums. You can watch the group, too, on DVD in the bargain. A must-have album.

MUSIC FROM THE WINE LANDS

by various artists

Putumayo, USA, 2006 (45mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—MRA, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK**—Putumayo, tel 07759 600495; **USA**—Putumayo World Music, tel 800 955 9588, www.putumayo.com

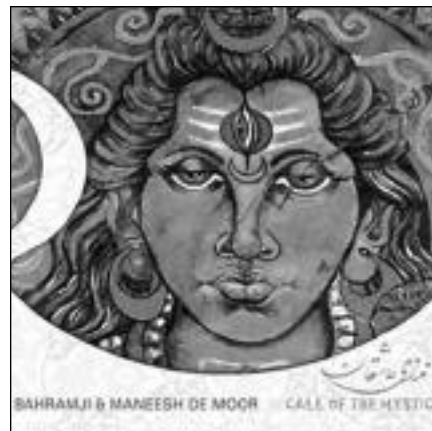
For this album of song, Putumayo has selected choice musicians from many of the world's wine-growing countries. It's a celebration of the history of wine, which goes back nearly 7,000 years. Music from France, Spain, Portugal, the USA, Greece, Italy, South Africa, Argentina and Chile graces this spicy album. Australia's representative is the original and inventive Stringmansassy. Styles include fado, flamenco, bluegrass, bossa nova, tango and Greek rembetiko. Sweet and palatable.

CALL OF THE MYSTIC

by **Bahramji & Maneesh De Moor**

Blue Flame, Germany, 2004 (50mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **Germany**—Black Flame Records, tel +49 (0)711 2567671, website <http://www.blueflame.com>

Imagine a bunch of Indian and European musicians together for a session using traditional ney (flute), santoor (Persian zither) and sitar, backed by keyboards, drum machines, electric guitar and synthesisers, combining the traditional with ambient, disco-based styles. This album is a crossover with contemporary and age-old instruments combined to produce sacred, heart-based music. Lyrics from the Persian poet Rumi make this a CD devoted to peace and friendship amongst all peoples.



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